

1502/94

AN
EXACT AND AUTHENTIC
NARRATIVE
OF
M. BLANCHARD'S
THIRD AERIAL VOYAGE,
ACCOMPANIED BY M. BOBY.

PRICE One Shilling and Six-pence.

N A R K A T I V E

M B L A N C H A R D

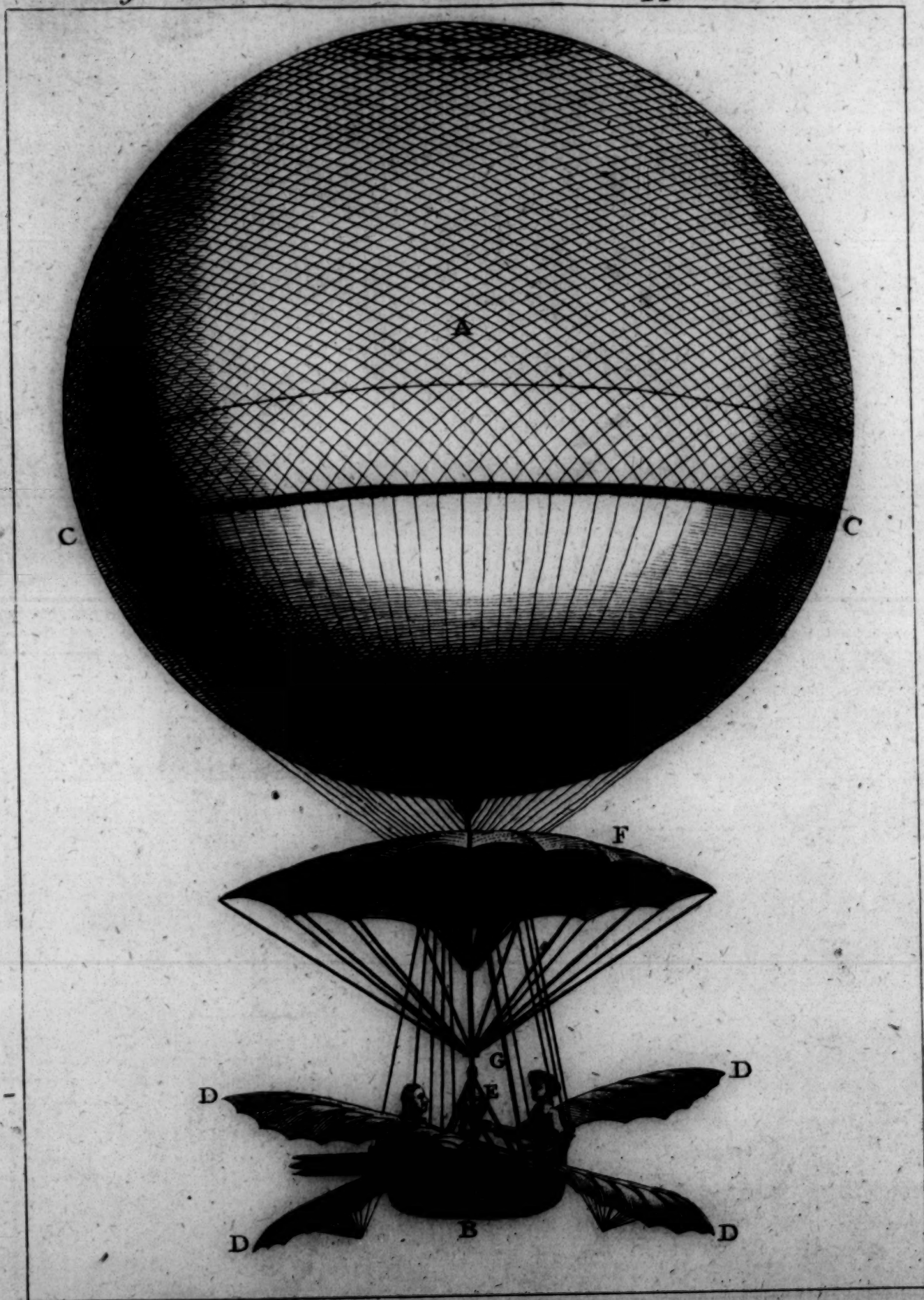
THIRD ARRIVAL
ACCOMPANIED BY M. B. B. B.



Price One Shilling and Six-pence.



*A REPRESENTATION
of M: Blanchards Balloon, & Apparatus.*



A { The Balloon made of Taffeta 26 Feet in-
diameter covered with a Net.
B { The Car suspended by longitudinal Cords-
from the Hoop C.

DDDD The Wings mov'd by means of Rackwork E.
F { A Parachute or Umbrella to break the force of
descent if the Balloon should burst.
G A Tube communicating with the inside of the Ballⁿ.

Publ'd Sep^r 14th 1784 by C. Heydinger Queen's Court Great Queen- St. Lincolns Inn Fields

1502/94

A N
E X A C T A N D A U T H E N T I C
N A R R A T I V E
O F
M. B L A N C H A R D ' s
T H I R D A E R I A L V O Y A G E ,
F R O M R O U E N I N N O R M A N D Y ,
On the 18th of JULY, 1784.

A C C O M P A N I E D B Y M. B O B Y ;
I N W H I C H
T H E Y T R A V E R S E D A S P A C E O F F O R T Y - F I V E M I L E S
I N T W O H O U R S A N D A Q U A R T E R ,
I N C L U S I V E O F T H E T I M E E M P L O Y E D
I N R A I S I N G A N D D E P R E S S I N G T H E M A C H I N E I N T H E A I R .
T O W H I C H A R E A D D E D
F O U R C E R T I F I C A T E S ,
T E S T I F Y I N G
T H E T R U T H O F T H E R E L A T I O N ,
A N D S I G N E D B Y S E V E R A L R E S P E C T A B L E C H A R A C T E R S .

T R A N S L A T E D f r o m t h e F R E N C H o f M. B L A N C H A R D .

Aereos audet tentare volatus. —

L O N D O N ,
P R I N T E D B Y A N D F O R C. H E R D I N G E R ,
I N Q U E E N ' s - C O U R T , G R E A T Q U E E N - S T R E E T , L I N C O L N ' s - I N N - F I E L D S .
S o l d b y R. B A L D W I N , N o . 47 . P a t e r n o s t e r - R o w ; J. D E B R E T , o p p o s i t e B u r l i n g t o n - H o u s e ,
P i c c a d i l l y ; R. F A U L D E R , N e w B o n d - S t r e e t ; a n d W. B A B B S , O x f o r d - S t r e e t .
M D C C L X X X I V .

EXACT AND AUTHENTIC

WARRANT



THIRD-CLASS VOYAGE

FROM LONDON TO NEW YORK
ON THE 15th MAY 1889

IN WHICH
THEY TRAVELLED A SPACE OF FORTY MILES
IN TWO HOURS AND A QUARTER



FOUR COPIES

THE FIRST COPY
AND SECOND COPY

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T H E
T R A N S L A T O R ' s
P R E F A C E .

WERE it necessary to offer any apology for submitting the following Translation to the eyes of the public, many circumstances might be urged in its favour. The important Discovery of Aeroſtation, its rapid and unexampled progreſs, the numberleſs improvements it has already received in an almoſt infant ſtate, and the great and well founded probability that by aſſiduous proſecution of the ſubject, mankind may be ultimately benefited, are ſufficient inducements to the Tranſlator for preſuming to engage in the taſk. For this, therefore, he conceives he need not apologize, but for the execution, he is conſcious ſome indulgence will be neceſſary. He has only aimed to give the juſt ſenſe of his Author in the ſimple ſtile of Narrative, without perhaps being ſufficiently attentive to correct the Galliciſms which may be found to prevail, or to adapt the language to the Engliſh idiom. Other occupations, and an impatience to complete the undertaking, prevented him from giving little elſe than a literal Translation.

If it should be asked why this particular voyage was selected, when many others, replete with ingenious facts and observations, might have been chosen? it will be answered, that no Account hitherto published contains so much information relative to the direction of Aerostatic Machines, the great *desideratum* of the Art, and the easy management of ascent and descension, added to this an acquaintance with the adventurous traveller, and a thorough confidence in his veracity, were powerful incentives to the choice.

Happy was it for the Art, that M. BLANCHARD had for several years been directing his attention, with a zeal and constancy which nothing could repress, to the means of raising himself in the air by mechanical powers. He had invented, with great skill and address, a variety of plans, destined to the accomplishment of his purpose; and every one was astonished at the lightness and precision with which he had constructed the wings, or rather the oars of his machines, with this they possessed also a sufficient degree of solidity; nor was it difficult for one person to move four of them, without intermission, and in striking the air to produce every sensible effect upon that fluid.

Yet, notwithstanding all his industry, and the most studious precautions, it was acknowledged that the weight of a man, and that of a vessel necessary to support him in the air, would require wings of so great an extent, as to render the use and management of them impracticable.—These obstacles, sufficient indeed to discourage a less ardent Philosopher, did not at all diminish M. BLANCHARD'S zeal; he

he never ceased to pursue his object, and although he underwent a series of the greatest difficulties and disappointments, during six years, yet the desire of elevating himself in the air, was never suppressed.

Though his hopes were very far from being realized, yet were they not destroyed, when the discovery of MM. DE MONTGOLFIER happily presented the most flattering prospect to his views; he soon perceived its utility, and hastened to announce to the public, that he intended to take advantage of it, and that no long time should elapse, before he would attempt to direct his course in the air. His project was, however, a little retarded; till at length on the 5th of *February*, 1784, the Public were finally informed, that nothing could any longer delay his engagement, as the Globe by which he was to be supported was nearly finished. In fact, the Experiment took place, in the presence of an immense concourse of Spectators, on the 2d of *March*, 1784, in the *Champ de Mars*, and M. BLANCHARD was seen to depart alone, with unparalelled intrepidity, to raise himself above the clouds, to follow the direction of the different currents, and to run through the solitary paths of air at a height which no mortal had yet attained (*). Here it was that in silence and in solitude, far remote from all human assistance, and separated as it were from nature, he might, without proper precautions, have wandered
for

(*) According to the observations of M. le Comte DE CASSINI, taken from the Royal Observatory, and of M. MESSIER, from the Hôtel de Clugny, the extreme altitude of the Balloon was 1500 fathoms of France, which is nearly equal to a mile and three quarters English.

for a considerable length of time, in a route as terrifying as uncertain,—have become the sport of the winds,—have suffered the action of a freezing cold,—have been suffocated by the rarified air,—or, have been compelled to pass the night in a situation the more terrible, as it was environed with every danger.

Very fortunately M. BLANCHARD was not long exposed, to the uncertainty of his fate. His Globe being at that time permeable to the Gas, allowed it to escape, much of it was also dissipated by the Valve and appendent tube, and he descended gently, one hour and a quarter after his departure, in the little plain of BILLANCOURT, at a short distance from Seve(*).

It is not at all surprising that so little credit is given by the people of this country *in general*, to the successful Accounts of Aerial Voyages, which have been received from the Continent; but, that any part of a body of men, who boast of philosophic titles, and whose only end should be to cherish the seedlings of Science, and rear them to perfection, should *prima facie*, and without an atom of solid reasoning, attempt to suppress, or at least to damp, so laudable a pursuit, is almost beyond a possibility of belief. Yet, such is the

(*) For the preceding sketch of M. BLANCHARD's first Voyage, the Translator is indebted to his ingenious friend M. FAUJAS DE SAINT FOND, who has collected all the Voyages and Observations relative to Aerostation. Two Volumes of this Work are already published, and a third will appear very shortly. They are elucidated by several plates, executed in a masterly manner, and well deserve the notice of Philosophers.

the fact; the Art of Aeroſtation was determined by them, as not likely to produce any advantages to mankind.—But let them reflect on the very rapid advances which have been already made in this Art; let them ſurvey the daily improvements, and then decide whether it is not at leaſt probable that it may lead to ſome uſeful purpoſes. The want of ſucceſs which has attended ſome of the Experiments in this country, has alſo contributed not a little to keep up the incredulity of the vulgar, who are now induced to believe, that all the Accounts of Aerial Voyages were the fabrications of inventive impoſition.—Let them enjoy their ſcepticiſm, they will need nothing but ocular conviction; their errors will therefore be ſoon removed.

The more enlightened part of the world begin now to be convinced of the eaſy practicability of the Art in a great degree, and many of thoſe even, who in its origin were Infidels, are now become Proſelytes.

It will not, however, be impertinent to remind them, that although it behoves a Philoſopher not to receive any thing upon ſimple aſſertion without inveſtigation, yet it is more injurious to the progreſs of Science, to attempt to cramp its paths, by a haſty and irrational deciſion.—Let them treasure up the following aphoriſm, and remember that it is the philoſophic language of the prophetic VERULAM.—

“ But the greateſt obſtacle of all to the progreſs of the Sciences
 “ and the undertaking of new tasks and provinces in them, lies in
 “ the deſpair of mankind, and the ſuppoſition of impoſſibility. For
 “ prudent and exact men, generally diſtruſt ſuch kind of attempts,
 “ upon

“ upon considering with themselves the obscurity of nature, the
 “ shortness of life, the fallacy of the senses, the weakness of the
 “ judgment, the difficulties of experimenting, &c. whence they
 “ conceive that there are certain ebblings and flowings of the Sciences,
 “ through all the revolutions of times and ages ; so as one while to
 “ increase and flourish, and another to decline and lie neglected ;
 “ and when arrived to one certain state and degree, to become in-
 “ capable of rising higher. Therefore, if any man should hope or
 “ undertake for the contrary, they think it the sign of a weak and
 “ unripened judgment, and that such attempts begin with pleasure,
 “ proceed with difficulty, and end in confusion (*).”—

(*) See BACON'S *Novum Organum*, Aphor. xci. and xcii.



AN EXACT
NARRATIVE
OF
M. BLANCHARD'S OBSERVATIONS
DURING HIS
THIRD AERIAL VOYAGE,

On the 18th of JULY, 1784.

I TOOK my departure, from the old Barracks of *Rouen*, with M. BOBY, at a quarter past five in the Evening, having, besides our own weight, about two hundred and ten pounds of Ballast.— While we were ascending vertically in a majestic manner, we continually saluted the Spectators with our flags. The Barometer fell four Inches and six lines in seven minutes, the Thermometer eighteen Degrees, in the same space of time. The Compass convinced us that we were in the North-East quarter. We felt at this time a light breeze, which would have carried us forward, without effecting our intention of making some evolutions over the City, and of rising and descending at pleasure, as I had engaged to do; and would, in fine, have prevented me from gratifying my native Province, over which I was then hovering, and which was attentively examining my manœuvres. I therefore struggled against the wind, in presenting to it the convexity of my wings, agitating them with great force. This enabled me to turn to the West; I then shifted my wings inversely, and found with pleasure that we had escaped

B

this

this current, which would soon have driven us from the sight of our Spectators, whose plaudits, and ejaculations, we could still hear very distinctly. The force of ascension was constantly taking place, but on striking the air to resist that power, we became, for an instant, stationary. During this period, I enquired of M. BOBY, who was contemplating the Earth with admiration, whether he could distinguish the mountain of *St. Catharine*? He looked for it without effect, and confessed ingenuously that he was *out of his latitude*, the surface of the Earth having no other appearance to him than a superb plain. Having conversed together, for a short time, on the grandeur of the scene, I endeavoured to descend, and succeeded so well, that the people imagined we were falling. The Barometer rose considerably.—Imagining we heard exclamations of terror, we determined not to suffer the Spectators to be under any further apprehension for our fate; we reascended *very quickly*, by throwing out some Ballast, and working with the wings. If it had not been my intention to mount very high, we could have reascended without either of those expedients, since we had effected our descent by the aid of our wings alone. We ascended very considerably, for the Barometer at thirty-two minutes past five, had fallen to 21 Inches. We now found ourselves becalmed, and for four minutes used no means of extrication. Having attentively surveyed the vast expanse, and contemplated the beauty of the clouds, which rolled over each other, under our feet, like a tempestuous sea, we congratulated ourselves on the occasion, and expressed an ardent desire to traverse their extent, which could only be effected by agitating our wings, it being prudent to reserve the Ballast till we had got out of this calm, where we experienced sensations, delightful beyond description.

I drew

I drew a paper from my pocket which had been thrown into my Vessel at our departure. We thought it was a Song, and endeavoured by turns to find a tune for it, but soon discovered it to be some excellent Verses. Having read them over, we conceived it was time to determine our course. I asked M. BOBY to which quarter he wished to turn? He replied to the North. I immediately agitated one wing only, by veering it round pretty nearly to the 45th Degree, and we turned northward. My Companion expressing a desire to be *transported to the clouds*, I acted forcibly with my four wings, and we ascended. The Barometer fell to twenty Inches, and the Thermometer to nine Degrees: It was now 56 minutes past five. Just at this time a contrary breeze sprang up, and I was obliged to abandon my northern course; according to the Compass, we took a North-East track, and this part of our voyage we ran through with great velocity. M. BOBY imagined we were stationary all this time, and, conceiving that his strength would expedite our progress, he offered to quit his Barometer and assist me in rowing. I desired him, however, to take care of his Instruments, and to assure himself that we were going at a great rate; as there was no fixed point in the immense void in which we then were, it was not possible to convince him of the celerity of our course, but that he should presently be sensible of it. I then turned back my wings, and struck the air in a contrary direction; the power of ascension yielded to this effort, and we descended considerably. It was now 6 minutes after six;—the Barometer rose to twenty-five Inches and two lines. At this height we could easily distinguish the country. My Companion, who had till then been doubtful of our progress, was delighted to see the Earth fly, as it were, from under our feet.

We were then near the town of *Saint-Saen*, and although this was not exactly our route, we agreed to hover over it, as we heard the Inhabitants calling us towards them. We were in one minute near enough to see the houses very plainly; but not to distinguish the people. We saluted them with our flags, and throwing out a portion of Ballast, ascended considerably, and pursued our route North-Eastward.

In reascending, we thought we discerned a town at a distance, and indeed we were not mistaken. M. BOBY was better acquainted with this part of the country, and from the state of the Compass, which I desired him to observe, he supposed it to be *Neufchatel*. "I have, said he, some friends in that Town, and should be very happy to pay my compliments to them *en passant*, if it is agreeable to you." I told him, it was quite as practicable as what we had just effected, and would not interrupt our course, as we must have passed over it, but that we would at present ascend as high as we were able. I had a particular reason for this, which I was desirous, for a moment, to conceal from my Companion. It was my wish indeed, to endeavour to get sight of the sea. When we had attained a height in which the Barometer marked twenty Inches and six Lines, we felt a supportable degree of cold. As condensation was now taking place, the Balloon collapsed a little, and in proportion as the Barometer rose again, we threw out a proportional quantity of Ballast. We passed on at nearly the same height for about six minutes.

The rarefied air gave M. BOBY an appetite. He ate,—and I followed his example. He asked for something to drink, but did not relish the first bottle I gave him. He chose another, and we drank

drank to the health of the city of *Rouen*, the Earth in general, and his friends, at *Neufchatel* in particular, among whom we were about to descend.

It was now twelve minutes past six; the Barometer had risen to twenty-two Inches and four lines; the Thermometer to twelve Degrees. I took the rejected bottle, and threw it away uncorked: We followed it with our eyes as far as we were able, and observed it falling with such violence that the liquor escaped like a copious smoke from the tunnel of a chimney. The wine seemed in ebullition, and exhaling in the form of vapour; at length it disappeared. We continued to ascend, and the Barometer fell to twenty-one Inches and six lines. We were still going North-East-ward, when I imagined we were approaching the town. I employed myself in our intended descent, and solicited my adventurous Companion to lay aside his Instruments that he might assist me to descend by means of our wings. He took his station on the left side, and we both rowed forcibly for three minutes. We descended with facility near the Town of *Neufchatel*, and by a quick and successive motion of the wings, attained a power of hovering over it. We saluted the Inhabitants, who made the air resound with my name. It was now fifteen minutes past six. Having paid this visit, we again raised ourselves by means of the wings; our departure seemed to throw the Spectators into an alarm, and we could distinctly hear their voices, which seemed to recall us. We then ascended to a great height, the Barometer fell to twenty Inches, and the Thermometer to nine Degrees, it was now twenty minutes past six.

We travelled at this height for six minutes, and in this last elevation we turned to the North North-West. After passing through a very light cloud, I perceived the sea before me at a distance;

distance; the rays of the sun rendered it as brilliant as glass. I could discern a little black point upon it; but taking no notice to my fellow traveller, I rowed powerfully to accelerate our course. The little point increased to my sight, and I was satisfied it was a Vessel. My Companion, who was engaged in examining the beauty of the different clouds, told me he heard the murmuring of a tempest. "Can it" said he, "be a contest between the clouds, or some effect within the globe?" "It is nothing," said I. A moment after, as I proceeded to lower the Machine, he observed that the noise increased, and resembled the waves of the sea. "You are not mistaken," replied I, "look back, and you will see the finest prospect imaginable." He was enchanted at the sight, and could plainly distinguish the Vessel.

I observed to him that it was now time to consider, whether we should undertake the passage? "I am perfectly agreeable," answered he with the greatest firmness. "I am at your command: you have seen throughout the voyage, how much confidence I have placed in your manœuvres. I resign myself entirely to your will; your decision shall be mine." His fortitude greatly strengthened my resolution. We were but two leagues distance from the sea, yet before I would determine whether we should pass it, I made those observations, which prudence suggested to me. The Barometer convinced me of our considerable elevation, the Compass promised a happy passage, but the time of day made me fearful that it would be a rash undertaking. I weighed every circumstance, and considering the matter thoroughly, thought it would be best to descend. M. BOBY expressed himself entirely conformable to my will.

It was now, *for the first time*, that I opened the Valve, in order to descend; it produced all the expected effect. M. BOBY, who

was

was examining the Barometer, observed to me, that we were descending rapidly. I told him, it was necessary that we should, as we were too near the sea to hazard a descent in an oblique line, which might perhaps bring us upon it. I requested him to be very attentive to the Barometer, and to inform me when it stood at twenty six Inches. He gave me notice of it and I threw out as much Ballast as I thought necessary to bring us in equilibrio. This succeeded so well, that for two minutes we ran over the plains at the same height. We could hear voices from all parts, and perceive a number of the country people running from different quarters. I immediately pointed out to my fellow traveller the plain on which I should chuse to descend, and in effect I rowed with such success as to alight upon it. I cautioned M. BOBY to be careful of his Barometer, and to hold it in equipoise, lest it should break. The Machine settled gently on a piece of trefoil, and what was the astonishment of my Companion when he perceived himself resting lightly on the tops of the leaves! His Barometer had nearly fallen from his hands, and looking at me, he exclaimed with rapture, *Ah! what a majestic descent!*— Observing a great number of peasants running towards us, he expressed a desire to reascend, as it was impossible to know their intention. We again took our flight and ascended to near twelve hundred feet. My wings alone produced this effect, and with great ease, since we were in an equilibrium with the atmosphere. The weather was tolerably calm, and a very slight motion enabled us to ascend or descend at pleasure.

The outcries of the peasants invited our return; I manœuvred in consequence, and we accosted them at about the height of one hundred feet. Some were clasping their hands together, others kneeling, and the greater part of them running away terrified.

The most courageous contemplated us, and exclaimed: "*Are you Men, or Gods?—What are you?—Make yourselves known!*" We replied: We are men like you, and here is a proof of it. We took off our coats, and threw them down; they seized on them eagerly, and began to divide them in pieces. This scene afforded us infinite amusement. We then re-ascended. At length, when we supposed they were convinced, that we were their fellow creatures (by their acclamations, and the offers of service which they tendered us) we resolved to descend. They stretched out their arms towards us; joy was depicted in the countenances of some, while others shed tears of rapture.—We came lightly down on a piece of corn, the ears of which supported us; we floated for some time in that situation, and nothing, surely, could be more majestic than to see us glide along the surface of it. At last, we rested upon the Earth having one hundred and ten pounds weight of Ballast left in our Vessel, and were instantly surrounded by a great number of people, whose astonishment was so great, as to deprive them of utterance.

Note. "The plain of *Puiffanval*, where we descended, at thirty minutes past seven, is fifteen leagues from the place of our departure (*)."

I observed that in the greatest rapidity of our course, a lamp would not have been extinguished, and thence I conclude, that sails adapted to an Aerostatic Machine would never swell.

(Signed)

BLANCHARD,

BOBY.

(*) We were only one hour and three quarters in our *direct* course; half an hour being spent in hovering over the City of *Rouen*.

CERTI-

C E R T I F I C A T E I.

Relative to the filling the Balloon, by M. VALLET,
one of the Directors of the Manufactory of Acids
at *Javel*, near *Paris*.

WE whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do certify, and attest,
to all whom it may concern: That we were present in the
City of *Rouen*, and saw M. VALLET's process for filling M. BLAN-
CHARD's Aerostatic Machine, for an Experiment which he had an-
nounced for the 18th of July, which process M. VALLET began at
three quarters past eleven, and had compleatly finished in our pre-
sence, and to our satisfaction, at a quarter past one exactly; at which
time the Apparatus was entirely disengaged, and the Balloon in a
condition to ascend. In Testimony of which we have hereunto set
our Names. *Rouen*, July 18th, 1784. Two o'Clock.

(Signed) B L A N C H A R D.

D E G A U L L E, Ingénieur de la Marine, de
l'Académie de Rouen, & Correspondant de
celle des Sciences de Paris.

L A E U T. T H I B A U L T.

F L A N D I N. L E F E B V R E.

T H I B A U L T, Entrepreneur.

P. L E V A V A S S E U R.

A U M O N T, Curé de Hottot-sur-Dieppe.

C H A P E L L E.

S U L M O N T, & C H A P E L L E le Jeune.

D

C E R T I

C E R T I F I C A T E II.

Of M. BLANCHARD's third Aeroſtatic Experiment, in company with M. BOBY, drawn up at the time of their departure from the old Barracks at *Rouen*.

ON this day, the 18th of July, 1784, M. BLANCHARD made his third Aeroſtatic Experiment in the court of the Old Barracks at *Rouen*.

The Barometer ſtood at twenty-eight Inches and three Lines; REAUMUR's Thermometer at twenty Degrees: The air was clear, though cloudy, and the wind in the North-Weſt. At fifteen minutes paſt five the Balloon was raiſed, with M. JEAN-PIERRE BLANCHARD, and M. DOMINIQUE-BERTRAND-JOSEPH BOBY, *Greffier au Parlement de Normandie*, the Companion of his voyage, in the preſence of a very brilliant and numerous Aſſembly. In teſtimony of which this Certificate was drawn up the ſame day and hour.

(Signed) CAMUS DE PONTCARRÉ, Premier Préſident.

THIROUX DE CROSNE, Intendant.

DE BELBEUF, Procureur Général.

DE LA LONDE, Préſident

BIGOT, Préſident.

BIGOT DE SOMMESNIL, Préſident.

LE ROUX D'ESNEVAL, Préſident.

PIGOU,

LE COQ DE BEUVILLE,

THOMAS DU FOSSE,

} Conſeillers au
Parlement.

HECAMP

HECAMP DE COLTOT, }
L'Abbé DE LA CAUVINIÈRE, }
BIGOT DE MELMONT, } Conseillers au
BERTOT DU BOSCTHEROULDE, } Parlement.
MORIN D'AUVER, }
ASSELIN DE CREVECŒUR, }
CHARLES, Substitut.
MARESCOT, Procureur-Général à la Chambre des
Comptes.
L'Abbé DE VIENNAY, ancien Conseiller au Par-
lement de Paris, & Abbé Commendataire de l'Abbaye
de Tupernay.
HAILLET DE COURONNE, Lieutenant-Criminel.
Le Chevalier DE VILLENEUVE, Lieutenant-Colonel
du Regiment d'Artois.
Le Comte DE TERSAC, Major.
GODEFROY, Curé de Ratiéville.
VALLET & D'ALBAN, tous deux Directeurs de
la Manufacture des Acides de Javel.
AUMONT, Curé de Hottot-sur-Dieppe.
LE FEBVRE, Receveur général du Tabac à Dieppe.
PILLORE.
DU NEVILHARD.
LE BRETON.
HELLOT.
LE ROSLE.
PONTUS.
CHAPELLE.

RÉNARD.

BASSELIN.

DUBOSC, Concessionnaire des Mines aux Pyrénées.

CHAPELLE le jeune.

TIERCELIN.

PHILIPPON.

BEAUFILS.

CURMER.

FOUQUES.

LEGRAND.

SELOT.

BLIN.

BEZUEL.

SULMONT.

C E R T I F I C A T E III.

Of the Descent in the Plain of *Puiffanval*.

MESSIEURS BLANCHARD and BOBY descended at thirty minutes past seven, by their watches as well as ours, in the Plain of *Puiffanval* near *Grandcour*, at fifteen Leagues distance from *Rouen*, having previously descended, and re-ascended three times, at pleasure, by means of their wings; for the purpose of affording to an infinite concourse of the Inhabitants, (who followed them for some time) an opportunity of seeing part of their manœuvres, and of removing their astonishment. The Inhabitants, on their part, being desirous to return this act of complaisance, testified a wish, which in fact was executed, of bearing them along in their Vessel, from the Plain of *Puiffanval* to the residence of the Rector; distant about a quarter of a league, where, having arrived and alighted, they were entertained to their satisfaction. (*) This Certificate was drawn up and read to all the Inhabitants, whose signatures are annexed, as well as to the Rector of the parish of *Linemare* who was present.

(Signed) FORTIN, Prêtre, Curé de la paroisse de *Puiffanval*.JOUAS, Curé de *Linemare*.LUCREST, Syndic de la paroisse de *Puiffanval*.

DESHAYES. CHARLES BRUNARD.

DETREMONT, Syndic de *Frénoy*.

SOULET. F. BAUVRIN.

(*) It may be observed, that the Travellers were so surrounded by the Inhabitants, that it was impossible to repel them, except by threatening to ascend again into the air, if they did not curb their enthusiasm.

C E R T I F I C A T E IV.

Of what passed after leaving the Rector's residence at *Puiffanval*, till their arrival at the Chateau de *Folny*.

MESSIEURS BLANCHARD and BOBY, after their arrival at the Rector's house at *Puiffanval*, were invited by many of the principal Nobility and Gentry in the neighbourhood; among whom were M. & Madame la Marquise DE BROSSARD; M. & Madame DUDOUET; Madame D'IMBLEVAL; Madame la Comtesse de BOUBERS & Madame DES VALLOURS.

Having thanked the Rector of *Puiffanval* for his civilities, they accepted the offers of M. and Madame DUDOUET. It was impossible to restrain the Inhabitants from again carrying them in their Vessel from the Rectory at *Puiffanval* to the Chateau of M. and Madame DUDOUET, and it was agreed among them to support it only on the tips of their fingers; which they effected without finding the least burthen. Having arrived in this manner at M. DUDOUET's house, which was about half a league distance, they supped in company with the Marquis DE BROSSARD and his Lady, who with permission of M. and Madame DUDOUET, engaged them to sleep at their seat at *Folny*, three quarters of a league distance, which they accepted on condition, that Madame la Marquise DE BROSSARD and Madame DE JEAN would supply their places in the Aerial Carriage.

This

This was agreed to, and they were born along by the Inhabitants to the castle of *Folny*, where on their arrival, they descended from the Car. The Machine was deposited in the garden, and ballasted to the amount of six hundred weight, which was hardly sufficient to keep it down, owing to a very fresh sea breeze.

At seven the next morning, M. BLANCHARD, ever indefatigable, who had been attentive during the night to any accident which might happen to the Machine or its apparatus, found the whole in excellent order (*).

M. BLANCHARD then invited the Marquis and Marchioness DE BROSSARD, and Madame DE JEAN, to partake of an experiment he proposed to make under their inspection. They went into the garden, in perfect confidence from the facility with which he rose and descended on the preceding evening in the Plain of *Puiffanval*. The Ladies expressed to the Captain of the Aerial Vessel a desire of ascending in it. M. BLANCHARD complied with their request, and for further precaution, which his knowledge of the Machine suggested to him, he caused three cords to be fastened to the lower and lesser circle of the net, and the Marchioness DE BROSSARD and M. BLANCHARD were raised to the height of eighty feet. The wind blew so strong that it was with difficulty they could retain it at that distance. When they descended, M. BLANCHARD gave up his place

(*) He is much indebted to this for the great pains which M. SULMONT had taken in preparing the Balloon for the reception of the inflammable air, to render it impermeable.

place to Madame DE JEAN, who, as well as her companion, was raised to the same height. The Countess DE BOUBERS with M. le Marquis DE BROSSARD's child, took the places of these Ladies, and after them, all the rest of the Ladies in succession, without shewing the least uneasiness even in the highest elevation; and M. BLANCHARD confesses to their praise, that he could have confided in either of them as a Companion for another Aerial journey.

This manœuvre being finished, and M. BLANCHARD finding sufficient powers in his Globe for an experiment similar to that which he had performed at ROUEN the 23d of May last, prepared to ascend alone in his Vessel, and to return as near as possible to the place from whence he had departed the preceeding evening; but he was prevented by his Companion, M. BOBY, who reminded him of the difference between the air at a certain height, and that of our atmosphere; and who feared that a current of air, contrary to that which seemed to favour the views of M. BLANCHARD, might carry him towards the sea. He was so pressingly solicited by M. BOBY and all the Company, to compleat their satisfaction by returning to a town, where the inhabitants were loud in applauding him; that after many intreaties he complied with their request.

With the assistance of the Ladies, they then proceeded to empty the Balloon, to accelerate which, M. BLANCHARD cut away the whole of the inferior Pole; and, notwithstanding he took this precaution, and that the Valve was open, and the Balloon laid on its side, yet it was more than an hour before it was completely exhausted; from whence this conclusion may be drawn, that if a rent of three feet should

should be made in the Globe, the loss of inflammable air would not be sufficient to occasion a dangerous fall.

This Certificate was drawn up at the Castle of *Folny*, the 19th of *July*, 1784, and after being read was signed by

M. le Marquis DE BROSSARD.

La Marquise DE BROSSARD.

Madame la Comtesse de ROQUIGNY,

La Comtesse DE BOUBERS.

Madame DE JEAN.

M. DUDOUET.

Madame DUDOUET.

Madame DES VALOURS.

Mademoiselle DE LIGNEMARRE.

Mademoiselle DE CROUTEILLE.

Mademoiselle GIRARD.

JULIE LE MARINIER.

Mademoiselle DUQUESNOY.

Madame de MILLEVILLE.

M. le Chev. DE BROSSARD-SAINT-JOUEN.

F I N I S.

...to occasion a dangerous fall.

This document was drawn up at the Castle of Fribourg, the 19th of

1734 and after being read was signed by

M. le Marquis de BROSSARD.

Is Mordue de Blossard.

Madame la Comtesse de ROQUIGNY,

La Compagnie de ROUBIN.

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